

Pre-Deployment Training in Support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom

In order to train operating forces for the current operating environments, Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF); TECOM has developed the Pre-deployment Training Program (PTP). The PTP consists of three distinct training exercises: Mojave Viper (MV), Desert Talon (DT), and Mountain Warrior (MW).

Mojave Viper

Conducted aboard the Marine Air-Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC) in 29 Palms, California, it consists of 14 days of Combined Arms Training (CAT), 10 days of Urban Warfare Training (UWT) and six days of unit specific training. CAT includes the following live fire events: platoon and company attacks, convoy operations course, combat patrol course, and Fire Support Coordination Exercises which integrate supporting arms, the Fire Support Teams, and ground maneuver. UWT is based on the Stability and Support Operations exercise developed by the Marine Corps War-fighting Lab. UWT includes Squad/Platoon/Company level lane training and a three-day Final Exercise based on current operating environment. The unit training block enables the exercise force to accomplish unit METs and/or complete Mojave Viper Pre-requisite Training Requirements.

Desert Talon

Conducted aboard MCAS Yuma, local ranges and nearby towns by Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1), it is a two-week training exercise designed to prepare USMC ground



/ aviation units for deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). It is broken down into an academic phase (four days) and a flight phase (seven days). During the academic phase a series of classroom presentations, lectures, guest speakers and informal discussion groups focusing on OIF lesson learned in force protection, convoy support, casualty evacuation (CASEVAC), MOS TTPs and SOPs, and aircraft survivability. The flight phase includes training such as convoy operation support, urban CAS, tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel (TRAP), forward air controller, and CASEVAC training.

Mountain Warrior

Conducted aboard the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, California specifically for units deploying in support of OEF. MW is a two-week training exercise broken into four phases: Pre-environmental, survivability and mobility, small-unit and company/MAGTF operations.